



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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www.dnr.illinois.gov

Pat Quinn, Governor
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Illinois Department of Natural Resources Newsbits

Highlighting IDNR programs and upcoming events for the month of November

Remaining Firearm Deer Permits: Remaining Illinois firearm and muzzleloader deer permits are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors through Dec. 8, or until quotas are exhausted. Find a vendor near you at this link:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/LicensePermitVendors.aspx>

Target Hunger Now: Hunters are encouraged to donate whole deer to the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program – part of the IDNR ‘Target Hunger Now!’ initiative. Participating meat processors turn the donated deer into ground venison for delivery to food banks and charities in Illinois. For more information on ‘Target Hunger Now!’ and the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger program, check the IDNR website at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/ISAH/Pages/default.aspx> or by email tracy.shafer@Illinois.gov or write to Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

Late-Winter and CWD Deer Special Hunt Area Applications: Hunters may apply online [through](#) Nov. 25 for site-specific permits for designated IDNR Special Hunt Areas for the Late-Winter and CWD Deer Hunts. The online application system will be available through the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov. A list of Special Hunt Areas:

CWD Special Hunt Area Sites

Apple River Canyon State Park (SP) – Thompson/Salem Units SP in Jo Daviess County

Castle Rock SP in Ogle Co.

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (SNA)/Heidecke State Fish and Wildlife Area (SFWA)/Morris Wetland in Grundy Co. – Check-in by 5 a.m. *

Hanover Bluff SNA in Jo Daviess Co.

Lowden-Miller State Forest in Ogle Co.

Kishwaukee River SNA in DeKalb Co.

Rall Woods (Falling Down Prairie) SNA in Jo Daviess Co.
Starved Rock SP – includes Starved Rock SP, Mathiessen SP, Margery C. Carlson SNA,
Mitchell's Grove SNA and Sandy Ford SNA in LaSalle Co.
Tapley Woods SNA in Jo Daviess Co.
Wards Grove Nature Preserve in Jo Daviess Co.
White Pines SP in Ogle Co. - Check-in by 5 a.m. *
Winston Tunnel SNA in Jo Daviess Co.

Late-Winter Special Hunt Area Sites

Franklin Creek SNA in Lee Co. – Check-in by 5 a.m.*
Jubilee College SP (**January 17-19 Only**) in Peoria Co.
Sahara Woods in Saline Co.
Sam Dale Lake in Wayne Co.
Siloam Springs SP in Adams/Brown Co.

* Permit hunters at these sites must sign in at the site check station by 5 a.m.; standby hunting available afterward, as space allows.

Permits for these sites are limited and will only be available through the online application through Nov. 25 (paper applications are not available). Hunters may submit only one online Special Hunt Area application. Unfilled 2013 site-specific firearm, muzzleloader or youth permits for these sites are not valid during the Late-Winter Firearm and CWD Deer season (except at sites where standby hunting is available). Late-Winter and CWD Deer season dates are Dec. 26-29, 2013 and Jan. 17-19, 2014. For a Late-Winter and CWD deer hunting information sheet, with details on sites open to deer hunting with county permits during Late-Winter and CWD seasons, check the IDNR website at this link:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Documents/Late-WinterSHAHuntingPermitInformation.pdf>

Resident Archery Deer and Fall Turkey Permits: Illinois Archery Deer and Illinois Archery Fall Turkey seasons are open through Jan. 19, 2014. Resident combination archery deer permits, resident antlerless-only archery deer permits, and resident archery fall turkey hunting permits are available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Find a vendor near you at this link:

<http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/VendorListing.aspx>

Non-Resident Deer and Turkey Permits: The remaining non-resident Illinois combination archery deer permits, as well as non-resident antlerless-only archery deer permits and non-resident archery fall turkey permits, are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. The season continues through Jan. 19, 2014. Find a license and permit vendor near you at this link:

<http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/VendorListing.aspx>

Archery, Firearm, Muzzleloader, and Late-Winter/CWD Seasons CWD Sampling:

Deer hunters statewide in Illinois are encouraged to allow samples to be taken for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing from **adult** deer they harvest. For locations serving as CWD sampling stations, taking samples from entire deer or deer heads through Jan. 20, 2014, check the IDNR website at this link:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/news/Documents/CWDsamplinglocations-STATEWIDE-2013.pdf>

Upland Hunting: For information on prospects for the 2013-14 pheasant, quail and rabbit seasons in Illinois, check the IDNR web site for the annual hunting prospects reports prepared by the IDNR Division of Wildlife Resources. The links to the reports are available through the IDNR web site at:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/uplandgame/Pages/PheasantQuailAndRabbitAnnualStatusReports.aspx>

ICF Wall Calendar: Order the beautiful 2014 Illinois Conservation Foundation wall calendar today. If you relied on the former *Outdoor* Illinois wall calendar, you'll definitely want to pick up a copy of this calendar. Proceeds from the sale of the 2014 ICF wall calendar will support youth conservation education programs in Illinois. The 9" x 12" calendar contains stunning photography of Illinois wildlife and natural resources, and can be purchased for \$15 (two for \$29, or three for \$41.25). Order online at www.ilcf.org or by phone at 217-785-2003. Checks and money orders can be mailed to Illinois Conservation Foundation, ATTN Wall Calendar, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

Spring Turkey Applications: Resident hunters may now apply for the first lottery for 2014 Illinois Spring Wild Turkey Season permits online. Go to the IDNR website for more information at this link: www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/turkey. The **application deadline** for the first lottery for 2014 resident spring turkey permits is **Dec. 1, 2013**.

Online Free Site Hunting Permits: Hunters are reminded that Free Site Hunting Permits (windshield cards) to hunt upland, forest game and waterfowl at IDNR sites are available online from the IDNR website at

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/PublicHuntingAreas.aspx>

Hunters are encouraged to view the link to hunter fact sheets also available at the site. For information or assistance, hunters should contact the site where they intend to hunt.

November Night Hike: Visit the Dickson Mounds Museum for a November Night Hike on Fri., Nov. 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of a brisk fall evening. Keep your eyes open for wildlife and listen to stories around a campfire. Visitors should dress for the weather and terrain and bring a flashlight. The hike is free and open to the public at Dickson Mounds Museum, 10956 North Dickson Mounds Road, Lewistown, IL 61542. Phone 309-547-3721 for more information.

Science Series: The Illinois State Museum's Science Series program for November is "Recent Research and Preservation Efforts at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site." The program will be presented by William R. Iseminger of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site at the ISM Research and Collections Center, 1011 E. Ash, Springfield on Wed., Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. The program is free and open to the public. For more information: 217-782-0061.

Biodiversity Live: Families will enjoy the "Biodiversity Live!" free event at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield on Sat., Nov. 16 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Illinois is home to an abundance of wildlife. Learn about the plants and animals that call Illinois home, and the delicate balance that supports our state's diversity. Animal programs are planned at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., hosted by Rob Mies, Executive Director of the Organization for Bat Conservation. He will speak about ecosystems, how animals are connected, and things everyone can do to protect wildlife from extinction. The ISM is located at 502 S. Spring St., Springfield. www.museum.state.il.us

ESPB Meeting: The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board will meet on Fri., Nov. 15, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, 30239 South State Route 53, Wilmington, IL, 60481. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, phone 217/785-8687.

Schoolyard Habitat Action Grants: Applications are being accepted for the Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant. Teachers and youth-group leaders may apply for up to \$1,000 to develop or enhance wildlife habitat in the schoolyard or other public place. Sponsored by the IDNR and the Illinois Conservation Foundation, funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, an Environmental Education Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Jadel Youth Fund, and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation. Visit <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/CLASSRM/grants.htm> for details. Applications are due by Nov. 30.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations: For information on Illinois hunting seasons and regulations, click here for the *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations 2013-2014*: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Documents/HuntTrapDigest.pdf>
For information on waterfowl hunting seasons and regulations in Illinois, click on the *Illinois Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations 2013-2014* here: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Documents/DigestWaterfowlHuntingRegulations.pdf>
For information on fishing regulations and places to fish in Illinois, check the *2013-2015 Illinois Fishing Information* guide online here: <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/fishing/Documents/IllinoisFishingInformation.pdf>

Apply Now for Youth Goose Hunt: Interested youth can register now for the 14th annual Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt, sponsored by the IDNR on Dec. 26-27 at private waterfowl hunting clubs in Peoria, Fulton and Knox counties.

Youth hunters must phone in to 217-785-8060 to register for a drawing to participate in the hunt. The registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 6. The drawing will be conducted on Dec. 9, and youth hunters selected will be notified by mail. First-time applicants will be given a priority over previous participants in the drawing. The hunt is open to youngsters ages 10-15 at the time of the hunt. All applicants must have successfully completed a hunter safety education course, possess a valid Illinois hunting or sportsman's license, have a Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number, and have a 20-gauge or larger shotgun. Youth hunt participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who must possess a valid firearm owner's identification (FOID) card. To register for the hunt, or for more information, call 217-785-8060.

Follow the IDNR: Keep up to date with events and information on outdoor recreation and natural resources in Illinois through IDNR postings on Facebook and Twitter. Just click on the tabs on the IDNR website homepage at www.dnr.illinois.gov and stay connected to the Illinois outdoors.

Follow the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)